

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to an apparatus for the determination of a condition or state of an object based on quasi-elastic interaction between the object and light transmitted to the object, the apparatus comprising a diffractive optical element having a diffracting region comprising a first diffracting structure for diffraction and focussing of a first light beam to the object, and a second diffracting structure that is laterally displaced relative to the first diffracting structure for diffraction and focussing of a second light beam to the object. The first and second diffracting structures focus the first and second light beams in the same focussing plane, the focussing plane being substantially perpendicular to propagation directions of the first and second light beams. The diffracting region further comprises a receiving diffracting structure for diffraction of light from the light beams that has interacted with the object. The diffracted light is diffracted in a diffraction angle. The size of the diffraction angle is substantially equal to the angle of incidence of the incoming light beam.